Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate according to ~~claim 1~~claim 3, wherein the semi-hard magnetic layer functions as a first magnetic domain control layer for controlling a magnetic domain of the first ferromagnetic layer.

3. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate, comprising:

a laminate structure including a first ferromagnetic layer having a pair of facing surfaces, a non-magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to one of the surfaces of the first ferromagnetic layer, a second ferromagnetic layer being disposed adjacent to the non-magnetic layer, and an antiferromagnetic layer being disposed to adjacent to the second ferromagnetic layer;

a non-magnetic exchange coupling layer being disposed adjacent to the other surface of the first ferromagnetic layer; and

a semi-hard magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, and being exchange-coupled to the first ferromagnetic layer through the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, ~~An electromagnetic transducer laminate according to claim 1,~~ wherein ~~the width~~a width in a longitudinal direction of the semi-hard magnetic layer is ~~equal to or~~ larger than ~~the width~~a width in a longitudinal direction of the first ferromagnetic layer.

4. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate according to ~~claim 1~~claim 3, wherein the second ferromagnetic layer has a laminate structure including two magnetization directions opposite to each other.

5. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate according to ~~claim 1~~claim 3, wherein the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer includes a reflective layer for reflecting conduction electrons.

6. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate according to ~~claim 1~~claim 3, wherein the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer includes an electrically conductive layer having a higher conductivity than the first ferromagnetic layer.

7. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate, comprising:

a spin valve structure including a free layer, a non-magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to the free layer, a pinned layer being disposed so as to face the free layer with the non-magnetic layer in between, and having a magnetization direction fixed in a predetermined direction, and a pinning layer being disposed adjacent to the pinned layer, and being provided for fixing the magnetization direction of the pinned layer;

a non-magnetic exchange coupling layer being disposed adjacent to the free layer on a side opposite to a side where the non-magnetic layer is disposed; and

a magnetic domain control layer being disposed so as to face the free layer with the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer in between, and being exchange-coupled to the free layer so as to control a magnetic domain of the free layer, wherein a width in a longitudinal direction of the magnetic domain control layer is larger than a width in a longitudinal direction of the free layer.

8. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer laminate, comprising:

a laminate structure including a first ferromagnetic layer having a pair of facing surfaces, a tunnel insulating layer being disposed adjacent to one of the surfaces of the first ferromagnetic layer, and being capable of tunneling conduction electrons therethrough, a second ferromagnetic layer being disposed adjacent to the tunnel insulating layer, and an antiferromagnetic layer being disposed adjacent to the second ferromagnetic layer;

a non-magnetic exchange coupling layer being disposed adjacent to the other surface of the first ferromagnetic layer; and

a semi-hard magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, and being exchange-coupled to the first ferromagnetic layer through the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, wherein a width in a longitudinal direction of the semi-hard magnetic layer is larger than a width in a longitudinal direction of the first ferromagnetic layer.

9. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic transducer, comprising:

an electromagnetic transducer laminate according to ~~claim 1~~claim 3; and

a lead layer for supplying a current to the electromagnetic transducer laminate.

10. (Original) An electromagnetic transducer, comprising:

an electromagnetic transducer laminate according to claim 7; and

a lead layer for supplying a current to the electromagnetic transducer laminate.

11. (Original) An electromagnetic transducer, comprising:

an electromagnetic transducer laminate according to claim 8; and

a lead layer for supplying a current to the electromagnetic transducer laminate.

12. (Original) An electromagnetic transducer according to claim 9, further comprising:

a hard magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to a side of at least a semi-hard magnetic layer in the electromagnetic transducer laminate, and functioning as a second magnetic domain control layer for controlling a magnetic domain of a first ferromagnetic layer in the electromagnetic transducer laminate.

13. (Original) An electromagnetic transducer according to claim 10, further comprising:

a hard magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to a side of at least a semi-hard magnetic layer in the electromagnetic transducer laminate, and functioning as a second magnetic domain control layer for controlling a magnetic domain of a first ferromagnetic layer in the electromagnetic transducer laminate.

14. (Original) An electromagnetic transducer according to claim 11, further comprising:

a hard magnetic layer being disposed adjacent to a side of at least a semi-hard magnetic layer in the electromagnetic transducer laminate, and functioning as a second magnetic domain control layer for controlling a magnetic domain of a first ferromagnetic layer in the electromagnetic transducer laminate.

15. (Original) a thin film magnetic head, comprising:

an electromagnetic transducer according to claim 9,

wherein the thin film magnetic head magnetically reproduces information.

16. (Original) a thin film magnetic head, comprising:

an electromagnetic transducer according to claim 10,

wherein the thin film magnetic head magnetically reproduces information.

17. (Original) a thin film magnetic head, comprising:

an electromagnetic transducer according to claim 11,

wherein the thin film magnetic head magnetically reproduces information.

18. (Original) a magnetic head assembly, comprising:

a head slider having a thin film magnetic head according to claim 15 formed thereon; and

a slider supporting mechanism supporting the slider head.

19. (Original) a magnetic head assembly, comprising:

a head slider having a thin film magnetic head according to claim 16 formed thereon; and

a slider supporting mechanism supporting the slider head.

20. (Original) a magnetic head assembly, comprising:

a head slider having a thin film magnetic head according to claim 17 formed thereon; and

a slider supporting mechanism supporting the slider head.

21. (Original) a magnetic reproducing apparatus, comprising:

a magnetic head assembly according to claim 18; and

a recording medium where information is magnetically reproduced by using the magnetic head assembly.

22. (Original) a magnetic reproducing apparatus, comprising:

a magnetic head assembly according to claim 19; and

a recording medium where information is magnetically reproduced by using the magnetic head assembly.

23. (Original) a magnetic reproducing apparatus, comprising:

a magnetic head assembly according to claim 20; and

a recording medium where information is magnetically reproduced by using the magnetic head assembly.

24. (Currently Amended) a method of manufacturing an electromagnetic transducer, the electromagnetic transducer comprising an electromagnetic transducer laminate according to ~~claim 1~~claim 3 and a lead layer for supplying a current to the electromagnetic transducer laminate,

wherein a method of manufacturing the electromagnetic transducer laminate comprises the steps of:

forming a non-magnetic exchange coupling layer so as to be disposed adjacent to one surface of a first ferromagnetic layer, and

forming a semi-hard magnetic layer so as to be disposed adjacent to the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, thereby being exchange-coupled between the semi-hard magnetic layer and the first ferromagnetic layer through the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer.

25. (Original) a method of manufacturing an electromagnetic transducer, the electromagnetic transducer comprising an electromagnetic transducer laminate according to claim 7 and a lead layer for supplying a current to the electromagnetic transducer laminate,

wherein a method of manufacturing the electromagnetic transducer laminate comprises the steps of:

forming a non-magnetic exchange coupling layer so as to be disposed adjacent to one surface of a first ferromagnetic layer, and

forming a semi-hard magnetic layer so as to be disposed adjacent to the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, thereby being exchange-coupled between the semi-hard magnetic layer and the first ferromagnetic layer through the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer.

26. (Original) a method of manufacturing an electromagnetic transducer, the electromagnetic transducer comprising an electromagnetic transducer laminate according to claim 8 and a lead layer for supplying a current to the electromagnetic transducer laminate,

wherein a method of manufacturing the electromagnetic transducer laminate comprises the steps of:

forming a non-magnetic exchange coupling layer so as to be disposed adjacent to one surface of a first ferromagnetic layer, and

forming a semi-hard magnetic layer so as to be disposed adjacent to the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer, thereby being exchange-coupled between the semi-hard magnetic layer and the first ferromagnetic layer through the non-magnetic exchange coupling layer.